

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6762**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 193

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 1, 2008

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Impoundment of Animals.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Deig

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                              **DEDICATED**  
                              **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** Local

**Summary of Legislation:** The bill provides that, unless a bond sufficient to cover the care and keeping of an impounded animal is tendered, a court may not issue an order prohibiting an animal shelter from disposing of the impounded animal.

It requires the owner of an impounded animal to reimburse the animal shelter for its expenses in keeping the animal if there was probable cause sufficient to charge the owner with a specified offense related to the animal, even if the owner is acquitted of the charges.

It also requires a probable cause for an impoundment hearing to be held not later than ten days after the impoundment.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2008.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** The bill has indeterminate fiscal impact on local units. Depending on the locality, costs for impoundment may be incurred by a local unit, by a not-for-profit humane society, or by the owner who posts bond or pays reclamation fees. Under the bill, costs may be reduced for local units that operate animal shelters by:

- (1) Requiring that the costs of care and keeping are paid for the term of an order restraining

an animal shelter from disposing of an animal, and  
(2) Requiring that an owner pay the costs of impoundment if there is probable cause, even if the owner is not convicted.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** Local units.

**Information Sources:**

**Fiscal Analyst:** Karen Firestone, 317-234-2106.